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(54) File backup facility for a community of personal computers.

(57) A file backup facility is provided for a community of personal computers (PC1-3) linked to a central station (10) that includes a mass storage device (14). The backup facility enables a user to select files for backup to the mass storage device (14) and then subsequently to restore selected ones of the backed-up files. Concurrent backup from several personal computers is permitted with the files subject to backup being divided into blocks and the blocks interleaved for storage on the mass storage device (14). The selection of files for backup or restore is effected by presenting to the user a directory listing all relevant subdirectories and files and permitting the user to select/deselect files individual or by directory.

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